

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Currently, claims 4-7, 9-10, 14-17, 19-20, 22, 25 and 32-35 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Claims 9, 19 and 34-35 are allowable. All other pending claims depend directly or indirectly from allowable base claim 9 or 19.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claims 1, 4-8, 10-11, 14-18, 20, 22, 25, 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Houde et al (U.S. '678, hereinafter "Houde") in view of Alperovich et al (U.S. '673, hereinafter "Alperovich"). Claims 32-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over the three-way combination of Houde, Alperovich and Syed et al (U.S. '451). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. As noted above, all pending claims are allowable. That is, claims 9, 19 and 34-35 have already been indicated as being allowable, and all other pending claims have been amended to depend directly or indirectly from allowable base claim 9 or 19. Accordingly, the above rejections are deemed moot.

FENTON et al.
Application No. 09/936,178
February 28, 2007

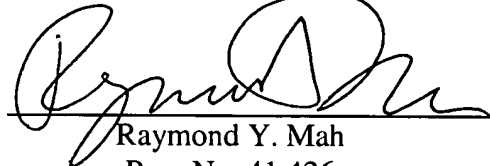
Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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